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pow wow **20**



Winning
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comes to
end for
Meteors **29**

The Fort Erie Times

www.forterietimes.ca

Thursday, March 3, 2016

The power of pink



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Staff and students at Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School joined schools across Canada to celebrate Pink Shirt Day last Wednesday. Pink shirts are worn to serve as a reminder bullying will not be tolerated. See page 3 for the story.

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SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Staff and students at Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School joined schools across Canada to celebrate Pink Shirt Day last Wednesday in an attempt to put an end to bullying. The concept of wearing pink T-shirts started in Nova Scotia in 2007 when a student, who was wearing a pink T-shirt at the time, was bullied.

Students dress in pink to share anti-bullying message

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

If you see someone being bullied, you should stand up and say something to stop it.

Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School's staff and students wore pink T-shirts last Wednesday in honour of Pink Shirt Day to serve as a reminder that they will not tolerate bullying.

The event was held across Canada, said Quynh Gilmour, a Grade 11 student at the Ridgeway high school.

Members of the Safe School Committee decorated the school in pink and organized a number of activities to raise awareness of bullying and to teach acceptance of others.

"It was a team effort. We did a lot of brainstorming for ideas that the students would be interested in," said Gilmour, a member of the Safe School Committee.

"We had a competition for the most creative pink wear and we stuck pink hearts underneath desks and whoever found them won pink candy."

Teachers also took time during the day to educate students on how the event first started.

The concept of wearing pink T-shirts began in Nova Scotia in 2007 when a student, who was wearing a pink T-shirt at the time, was bullied.

Gilmour said it was important to celebrate Pink Shirt Day "because so many people are affected by bul-

lying. Bullying is not always obvious and we need to get at the root of it. Having Pink Shirt Day raises awareness for it."

Grade 9 student Zach Offermann, winner of the creative pink wear competition, said he has had problems with bullying in the past and felt it was important to recognize the day.

His Pink Shirt Day ensemble included everything from pink pants, shirt, sweater, to sun glasses and even his hair.

"I don't think it's cool," Offermann said about being bullied.

"How would you like it if someone did that to you? I don't think people should be bullied, especially for expressing themselves."

Teacher Greg Schaubel said he

would like to see Pink Shirt Day activities held once a month, not just one day a year, to remind students bullying is not okay.

"I think I heard it best from one

of the students. He said 'If you see something, you should say something,' Schaubel said.

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Jury begins deliberations in murder trial

ALISON LANGLEY
POSTMEDIA NETWORK

The fate of a Fort Erie man charged with second-degree murder in the bludgeoning death of an 81-year-old man is now in the hands of a jury.

The eight-man, four-woman jury began deliberating the case of Michael Laforme around 4:45 p.m. Monday night but by 9 p.m. Jury members were then sequestered at a local hotel with deliberations to resume Tuesday. It was not known if a verdict was given before the Fort Erie Times went to press.

In his closing address to the jury in a Superior Court of Justice in Welland, Crown attorney Tyler Shuster said Laforme bludgeoned Blake Nicholls to death with a hammer because he believed the elderly man was interfering in his efforts to start a relationship with his next-door neighbour.

"Blake Nicholls was not a romantic rival," he said. "But, Blake Nicholls interfered with his pursuit of

Kathy Carter."

Laforme has pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder. Nicholls' battered body was discovered by Carter on the floor of his Fort Erie home on Nov. 25, 2013. He had been struck in the head 16 times.

Court heard earlier that Laforme had told Nicholls "she doesn't know it yet, but I'm going to marry her," referring to Carter.

Shuster said Nicholls warned Carter to be careful around Laforme, which angered the 68-year-old Laforme.

"This was a violent, emotional attack fuelled by jealousy and alcohol," Shuster said of the attack.

He said jealousy "is a motive for murder that's as old as human history."

Shuster said Laforme's claims he was a hit man who had been hired by Six Nations to kill Nicholls to end a land dispute had no merit. He said Laforme made that claim to make himself sound important.

Defence counsel Geoffrey Hadfield argued there are simply too many holes in the Crown's theory for a jury to

convict his client.

"After you carefully sift through all the evidence, there is not enough evidence to find Mr. Laforme guilty beyond a reasonable doubt."

Hadfield agreed his client had been "smitten" by Carter but that doesn't mean that he became so jealous of her relationship with Nicholls that he resorted to murder.

Also, whoever killed Nicholls, Hadfield said, would have been soaked in blood.

Court heard earlier from a number of witnesses that Laforme was seen at a Fort Erie bar in the hours following the murder. None of the witnesses testified to seeing any blood on the defendant.

Also, no blood was found in the driver's seat of a car Laforme was driving that night.

Hadfield contends the Crown's theory that Laforme "calmly" got into the car and went to a bar after committing the murder is a "ludicrous scenario."

"Whoever committed the murder would have been saturated with blood. Could Mr.

Laforme have purged himself of the blood stains?" Hadfield asked, adding no blood was found in his apartment.

He also noted that five cigarette butts found on the floor in the main floor bathroom at Nicholls' Bertie Street home did not contain any traces of Laforme's DNA.

Hadfield also asked the jury to take a hard look at William Stevens' credibility. When he was first interviewed by police regarding his involvement in the matter, Stevens was told he was going to be arrested and charged with murder.

It was at that point, Hadfield maintained, that Stevens concocted a story that implicated Laforme.

Stevens, an admitted drug dealer, claimed Laforme confessed to him that he had just killed a man and that he committed the murder because he had been hired by Six Nations. Stevens was arrested, but never charged with a crime.

For more information on this story visit www.forterietimes.ca.

POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Police have arrested the 21-year-old Fort Erie man they have been searching for since the weekend relating to alleged assault and weapons offences.

Niagara Regional Police officers responded to an address in the area of Front and Clairmont streets in Thorold on Monday. Officers contained the residence having learned Joshua Earl Stiles, who was wanted after an alleged violent incident this past weekend, may be inside.

Police said Stiles exited the residence and surrendered himself to officers without incident.

He was arrested and is expected to attend a bail hearing on Tuesday at the courthouse in St. Catharines.

On Saturday, the NRP sent out a press release indicating they were searching for Stiles.

Police responded to a

call of a disturbance between a man and a woman at 4:10 a.m. Saturday at a house near Queen Street and Goderich Street in Fort Erie.

Police said the woman fled the house with minor injuries. She met with officers, who received information that Stiles may have been armed with firearms.

The suspect had fled the house prior to the arrival of police.

When police entered the house, they found a two-month-old infant asleep and unharmed.

As a result of the incident, Stiles was wanted for forcible entry, assault, mischief under \$5,000, utter threats, assault with a weapon, pointing a firearm, possession of a firearm other than restricted, use of a firearm in the commission of an offence, forcible confinement, careless storage of a firearm and fail to comply with a probation order.

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The
Fort Erie Times

Peter Conradi regional editor
Sarah Ferguson editor

Point of View

We should take a stand against bullying every day

Last week, thousands of students across Canada donned pink T-shirts in an effort to raise awareness of bullying and to encourage tolerance of others.

It's a great initiative that was created in 2007 when a group of students bought and distributed pink shirts after a Grade 9 student was bullied for wearing pink.

But wearing pink shirts on one day a year is not enough. The impact of bullying is a conversation we need to have with our children, and some cases, even adults, on a regular basis.

It's important that we continue to spread the message that bullying is wrong, and that making fun of another person, or hurting someone simply because they have different opinions or express themselves in an unconventional way, is never okay.

Bullying can be manifested through rumours, gossip, threats and violence, and it doesn't matter who you are - anyone can be a victim. Bullying can occur on the playground, in a classroom, in the hall, online or even in the workplace.

Parents need to reinforce the

message students hear at school by continuing the conversation with their children at home.

Cynicism towards anti-bullying campaigns such as Pink Shirt Day has to also be taken seriously. When we assume that bullies will always be bullies and nothing will ever change, we diminish the impact of what these initiatives are trying to do. We can set a dangerous precedent if we assume nothing can be done.

And it's untrue. Much can be done, and much has been done with simple local campaigns such as Pink Shirt Day and Wonder, a book about a boy with a facial deformity that inspired students across Canada to stand up against bullying and be kind to others.

We shouldn't look at bullying as a situation of a good kid versus a bad kid.

Everyone makes mistakes but only through awareness campaigns and constant conversation about tolerance, respect and dignity can we learn not to make these mistakes again. Nipping bullying in the bud through education can produce healthy, long-term results among our youth. The ultimate hope is that the next generation will always choose to be kind instead of cruel.



Do you remember?

Our thanks to Larry Wale who called in with a great lead about last week's photo. He thought that the man was probably Reverend Robert Rolis, a local candidate for the PC party. This led to further investigation where it was found that the woman pinning the corsage was his wife, the former singer, Barbara Alcorn Rolis. Robert Stanfield's image is shown in the background with his campaign slogan, "The Man With the Winning Way." It was not to be, as neither Rev. Rolis or Robert Stanfield won that 1967 election. The new Prime Minister for Canada's Centennial year was Pierre Elliott Trudeau. Many of you may also remember Rev. Rolis when he was a talk show host on CJRM in the Falls for many years. This week's photo shows three happy students, with the girl standing displaying a medal. Do you remember these children or can you tell us why their photo appeared in the paper in March 1981? If so, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail us at museum@forterie.on.ca



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March Break Art Camp returns this month

March is already here, spring is just around the corner...in theory anyway. This year's life space seemed to have been running through like sand in a sand watch. "Papa boy! Live for today," that is a good way to go.

Sometimes life or weather conditions do no play nice with our evening plans. Said weather conditions were responsible for Tell me the Truth about love cabaret show being cancelled. Luckily, we found a new date. The show will go on on March 12. Doors will open at 7:30, the entertainment will start at 8 p.m. Tickets bought for the first date are valid for this date as well. If you haven't bought tickets yet, you still have a chance to see this unique show brought to you by Lyric Niagara. Explore different stages of love through



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various genres including jazz standards, Broadway tunes, and operatic genres. Tickets are available for \$20 at Brimstone Brewing Company and Ticketscene.ca. The ticket price includes a drink at the bar.

Are you looking for something fun yet stimulating to do for your kids during March break? The very popular Art Camp (March 14 to March 16) brought to you by the Fort Erie Arts Council might be perfect for you. Held at the beautiful Bell Tower Sanctuary from 9

a.m. to 3 p.m. (before and after care is available upon request from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.), the three-day camp costs \$100, all materials and snacks included. FEAC Members receive a discount and we also have a multiple sibling discount. Please email feacclasses@gmail.com for more info and to register.

Do you just love exploring flea markets? Well, how about you stroll down to The Bell Tower Sanctuary on Central Avenue on a Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and do exactly that? You can find everything from wedding decorations to tools and aroma therapy by Witch Way. Refreshments are available for purchase.

Quick announcements: Sadly, the Hayden show on April 8 and the Joel Plaskett show on April 30 are completely sold out. The Sloan show on May 8 (The Bell

Tower Sanctuary) is headed that way as well, so please don't wait too long to get your tickets.

We do however have tickets to see WILLA (Vancouver) with Glass Apple Bonzai (Port Dalhousie) on March 19. You might not have heard of them yet, but I think it is worth checking it out. WILLA is making quite the musical splash right now. Her new single "Dreamer" is shaping up to be very successful. The dark synth based pop sound was developed when Ryan Guidemond (Mother Mother) and WILLA "just" started to write music. Well, I really like it and I think you will, too.

When I first read the name "Glass Apple Bonzai" I was intrigued. I just love that name. Researching the act, I learned Daniel X. Belasco, who

is the musical mastermind behind GAB, won The Niagara Music Award for Album of the Year and Recording Engineer of the Year at the 2015 Niagara Music Awards. Not too shabby, I say. If you like Depeche Mode inspired music, you are going to fall for Glass Apple Bonzai...hard.

Doors open at 8 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. Tickets are available for \$10 at Brimstone Brewing Company or on Ticketscene.ca.

For more information about what is going in at The Sanctuary - Centre for the Arts visit www.thesanctuaryarts.org or like us on Facebook.

Hope to see you soon. Until next time.
Nadine Pizzicarola is the events coordinator for the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts.

List of movie screenings offers something for everyone

Movies at the Fort Erie Public Library during the month of March embrace a wide variety of stories and movies: true tales pulled from headlines, funny films for children and for adults, the exciting finale to the hit teen book and movie series Hunger Games, and this year's Best Picture Oscar winner.

Tonight's film, Citizenfour, is a documentary about Edward Snowden, who contacted filmmaker Laura Poitras claiming to have evidence of illegal surveillance run by the National Security Administration with other intelligence agencies worldwide.

The resulting film is history unfolding before our eyes, and seems especially significant in light of the controversy about



AMY ROEBUCK
Fort Erie Library

whether the U.S. government should have access to the electronic records of private citizens. Citizenfour begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Centennial branch. Next week's film is Burnt, featuring Bradley Cooper and an all-star cast as a passionate, talented, vicious chef and his staff in pursuit of a Michelin star. Children will enjoy the Saturday matinee that kicks off March Break, Alvin and the

Chipmunks—the road trip. The screening for this family adventure comedy will be at the Centennial branch on March 12, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Mockingjay, part 2, the final Hunger Games film, concludes the story of Katniss Everdeen and District 13, as the rebels engage in an all-out war against the autocratic Capitol. Teens and adults can enjoy this action adventure thriller at the Crystal Ridge branch on Tuesday, March 15 at 2 p.m., and at the Centennial branch on Thursday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. Spotlight, the Academy Award winner for best picture, will be screened on March 29 and 31.

Do you have your March Break tickets yet? Buy them to reserve your space now for the amazing Republic

Kingdom on Monday, exciting Super Science on Tuesday, Wednesday's wonderful live theatre production of Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day, and Scoop McCoy's marvelous Magic Show to finish off the week on Friday. If young people who would like to learn skills for staying home alone, or preparation for Babysitting, the library has that on offer, too, in programs run by the Saint John Ambulance. Please contact them at 905-356-7340 to learn more about the March 17, Thursday afternoon Home Alone program, or the Saturday, March 19, Babysitting Basics workshop, both at the Centennial branch.

The Friends of the Library will

meet on Tuesday, March 8 at 4 p.m. at the Centennial branch of the library. All adults are welcome to join this friendly, hardworking group as they provide advocacy and fundraising support for the library.

Family Time makes Tuesday a special day for the younger set. Join the library and the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre at the Centennial branch for an interactive and fun drop-in story time, with songs, rhymes, toys and crafts for all ages, from babies on up.

Whether your interest is movies or March Break, adult events or children's times, check all our offerings at www.feyl.ca. Amy Roebuck is the community services coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

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Spinach Mushroom Frittata

- 2 to 3 garlic cloves minced
- 1 large onion chopped
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 4 cups sliced mushrooms
- 1/2 tsp dried thyme (1 use fresh chopped)
- 10 ounces spinach, rinsed and stemmed
- 2 whole eggs
- 6 egg whites
- 1 tbsp fresh dill
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup grated feta cheese

In a 10 to 12 inch skillet saute the garlic and onions in a tea-

spoon of olive oil on low heat for five minutes. Add the mushrooms and thyme, cook for five minutes then remove the skillet from the heat. Meanwhile in a separate pot cook the spinach on low heat with just enough water that clings to it from rinsing, spinach needs to be just wilted. Then cool in colander and press out excess water with paper towels, then chop spinach into smaller pieces.

In a large bowl beat the eggs, the egg whites, the dill, salt and pepper until evenly coloured. Stir in spinach, mushrooms and feta cheese. Coat the bottom of the skillet

with remaining olive oil and return to medium heat. When the skillet is hot pour in the egg spinach mixture. Cover and cook for five to eight minutes, until the edges are firm and the bottom is golden and just beginning to brown. Then place a large flat plate or pizza pan over the skillet and flip the skillet over so the frittata falls onto the plate. Slide the frittata back into the skillet and cook 5 minutes more, making sure the eggs are fully cooked. Serve immediately with herbbed tomato soup, or freshly cooked asparagus or seasoned steamed winter vegetables.

From the Gardener's Journal

You can blame global warming or the cycle of weather, but I haven't heard the complaints about the cold winter that we heard last year. All I know for sure is that my one pup is shedding this month and that is likely a sign of a warmer or earlier spring. That is unless she is kidding herself of under fur to grow more for a cooler and later spring. No, I'm sure it is the former, in my own optimistic way I look for these signs.

Along the Lake this past week we glimpsed two little foxes frolicking. Enjoying the winter and melt in their own way. Or perhaps it was a snow day from school for them too! While working in the greenhouse and cleaning out an area so we could have more space for the plantings, I found a nest of baby mice. And I mean eyes tightly closed, way tiny babies. And I couldn't kill them. No, not me, can't do it. I guess I'll just have to pay a little price later in some attrition to the plants.

Meanwhile the growth is spectacular this year on the blooming annuals. I don't recall our geraniums being in such full bloom in February last year, so this might be a hopeful sign too. We are looking forward to some little veggie sprouts in the next few weeks as those early vegetables are being planted. This year I have set a goal for more container veggies at home. I had grand success with a new and improved herb garden last year and was able to harvest well into the warm



autumn. I would like to try some blends of edible flowers and veggies too in hanging baskets, so I'll keep you posted on the success of those.

Yet it is still winter so this week's recipe reflects the slow and yet pleasant change in the season from cold to less cold.

I hope you enjoy the longer days and the spectacular sunrises and evening light shows. The coming month brings us the full moon on March 23 and a lovely 13.5 hours of daylight by month's end. And we are back to a full 31 days in March—lots of time to enjoy the end of winter as the first day of official spring arrives on March 20. From then on we focus on getting out and impatiently waiting for the ground to warm up, for the plants to harden up and the clean up to begin.

Lots to look forward to and meanwhile, enjoying the walks along the beach on the trails and through our lovely community.

Until next week, keep growing

Ruth Vold Markle is a member of the Port Erie Horticultural Society.

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Cow Chip Bingo Fundraiser to support Ridgeway legion

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

Everyone is invited to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 230 for some country-style fun.

The legion will host the first annual Cow Chip Bingo Fundraiser on Saturday, March 12 at 1 p.m.

Jesse Boles, an associate member of Branch 230, described the event as "a blend between bingos and a 50/50 draw".

A portion of the legion's lawn will be roped off and divided into 100 squares. Squares are being sold for \$20 each and can be purchased in the legion's canteen.

"We'll send Bessie on the lawn and wherever she decides to relieve herself will decide the winner," Boles said.

First, second and third-place winners will receive cash prizes.

According to Boles, the event will be a sight to see for anyone who has never participated in a Cow Chip Bingo before.

"When we were looking for options for fundraisers outside the norm, we did a lot of research and this type of event is popular in rural communities, especially the U.S."

All of the proceeds from the event will support future events that the legion will host.

"All of the money we raise goes right back into the community through the events that we offer," Boles said.

The fundraiser also coincides with the Ridgeway Winter Farmers' Market at the legion which runs from 7 a.m. to noon.

For more information about the event call the legion at 905-894-5927.

sahferguson@postmedia.com



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 230 is hosting Cow Chip Bingo on March 12.

WHO: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 230

WHAT: The first annual Cow Chip Bingo.

WHEN: Saturday, March 12 at 1 p.m.

WHERE: The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 230, 228 South Mill St. South.

WHY: To raise money for the legion.

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Health Corner

Pinhole Gum Rejuvenation

What is Gum Recession?
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What are the consequences of gum recession?
Gum recession can have many consequences such as creating gaps between teeth and the gum line making it easier for disease-causing bacteria to build up then destroy teeth, lead to tooth sensitivity, cause the appearance of "longer" teeth, tooth loss and/or severe overall health consequences.

What can you do?
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Pinhole Gum Rejuvenation using the Pinhole surgical technique is a scalpel free, suture-free, graft-free treatment option for receding gums, meaning it's an easy minimal invasive procedure!



Dr. John Inigo

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Dr. John Inigo is a practicing general dentist in Fort Erie and Ridgeway, Ontario. He can be reached at Inigo Bertie Dentistry: 905-871-2903 or Inigo Ridgeway Dentistry: 905-894-5555. For further information and discussion, please visit his office at www.inigodentistry.com

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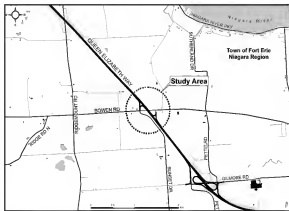


ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE NOTICE OF STUDY UPDATE

Queen Elizabeth Way and Bowen Road Interchange Improvements
G.W.P. 2482-04-02
Class Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Design Study

THE STUDY

In December 2013, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO), in cooperation with the Regional Municipality of Niagara, commenced a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) and Preliminary Design Study for interchange improvements at the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) and Bowen Road in the Town of Fort Erie, Niagara Region, to accommodate the needs of the proposed development by Canadian Motor Speedway in the southwest quadrant of the interchange. The study followed the approved planning process for a Group 'B' project under the MTO Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities (1990, amended 2000) and examined bridge alignment and design alternatives for replacing the existing 2-lane bridge with a wider bridge, as well as construction staging and detour alternatives. The study also examined alternatives for modifying and potentially reconfiguring the Bowen Road interchange.



One Public Information Centre (PIC) was held for the study on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 to present the evaluation of alternatives, the preliminary details of the Technically Preferred Alternative, and proposed measures to minimize or avoid impacts. The Technically Preferred Alternative included replacing the existing Bowen Road bridge to the south of the existing alignment.

THE UPDATE

Due to updated development needs, the Preliminary Design for the Bowen Road bridge replacement which received EA approval in October 2009, for a 2-lane cross-section, will accommodate the needs of proposed local development. Thus, MTO will proceed with the October 2009 Preliminary Design for the Bowen Road bridge replacement for two lanes.

To obtain additional information, provide comments, or to be placed on the study mailing list, please contact the Project Team as follows:

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Comments are requested by March 24, 2016.

Comments are being collected to assist MTO in meeting the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Access to Information Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.



EDTC welcomes new economic development officer

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corporation is set to welcome Karen Audet as its new economic development officer.

Audet, who has served as the operations manager of the Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce since 2008, will take on her new role on April 4.

"After a lengthy and vigorous recruitment process, Karen emerged as the top candidate of the 19 candidates under consideration," the EDTC's general manager, Jim Thibert, said.

Audet has a diploma from Niagara College in Journalism and a Bachelor's degree in communication from Athabasca University. She has been involved with media relations and communications with a number of companies throughout Ontario prior to joining the Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce.

"Those experiences and Karen's knowledge of many Fort Erie business stakeholders, political environment, geography and demographics, along with her work ethic, energy and her ability to hit the ground running make her the top candidate for the position," said

Thibert.

Born and raised in Fort Erie, Audet is "excited" to join the EDTC, which shares offices in the same building.

"Having watched and been involved with all the EDTC staff for over eight years, this is a logical next step in my efforts to help Fort Erie grow and prosper," Audet said.

"While much of the work that the EDTC does is business client-based and confidential, there are many functions and activities the EDTC does that are public, promotional and marketing. My degree in Communications and experience in that field are some of the tools I bring to the job," she added.

Audet will work to support the EDTC's business development, site promotion, development policies, and economic analysis by working with clients, residents, stakeholders, business leaders, and members of the development and investment community.

"I look forward to the challenge of promoting Fort Erie's profile beyond our immediate community, working with clients on business expansion, retention and attraction and to contribute to the positive growth, development and sustainability of the Town of Fort Erie," Audet said. sarferguson@postmedia.ca

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Niagara Oscar winner made Superman fly

GRANT LAFLECHE
POSTMEDIA NETWORK

In a way, Colin Chilvers owes his Oscar-winning film career to a pipe that wouldn't explode.

A decade before the Crystal Beach resident made the world believe a man could fly, Chilvers was part of the special effects team working on the 1968 film *Inspector Clouseau* — a lesser known Pink Panther movie starring Alan Arkin instead of Peter Sellers as the bumbling police detective — and things were not going well.

Arkin's Clouseau was supposed to light the pipe of his boss, played by Shakespearean actor Frank Finlay. The gag was that Clouseau's lighter was actually a James Bond-esque laser weapon, which was supposed to slice the pipe in half while in Finlay's mouth.

"It never worked. Not once," Chilvers said Sunday.

Unhappy film executives gave the crew one last chance to make the scene work. One of the movie honchos asked Chilvers, then a young man from England just starting his career, why he thought the gag wasn't working.

"I explained what I would do, and then I was told they were going to give the other guy (the effects supervisor) another chance. If it didn't work, they would try my idea," Chilvers said. "So I stayed up all night rigging a pipe."

The supervisor's plan failed twice more the next day and Chilvers got his chance.

His pipe, sawed in half and tacked back together with wax, was rigged with a small fuse and a battery. All Finlay had to do was bite down and the fuse would burst, melting the wax, making the pipe fall apart.

"You can imagine, my hands were shaking," Chilvers said. "There I was, a kid telling this world famous, Shakespearean actor how to bite down on a pipe to make it explode."

The effect worked. Within hours the special effects supervisor was fired and Chil-

vers was named as his replacement.

Within a decade, Chilvers faced a much more difficult task as the special effects supervisor on *Superman: The Movie*.

For the film to work, Christopher Reeve's Superman had to appear to so naturally fly. In an age before digital effects, past attempts to make a live action Superman, including the George Reeves TV show, were unable to do it well.

"In fact, when I first got the script for *Superman*, I thought 'How in the hell are we going to make this work?'" Chilvers said.

Details that seemed unimportant at first required some clever problem solving to make the effect as convincing as possible.

"Take the cape. You couldn't just put Chris on wires in front of a wind machine because the cape doesn't flutter. The wind actually made it wrap around him," Chilvers said.

Chilvers and his team invented a method of using wires attached to the cape's hem that, when combined with the wind, make it appear to flutter.

(The effect was so successful that Chilvers' nephew Neil Corbould would use a version of it while working as the special effects supervisor for *Superman Returns* in 2006. His other nephew, Chris Corbould, is also a successful effects supervisor, who worked on *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*.)

Chilvers and his team pulled the effects off so well, that Chilvers won a Special Achievement Academy Award in 1979 for *Superman*.

Along with earning him the Oscar and pushing his career in new directions, *Superman* also brought Chilvers to Niagara.

Parts of *Superman II* were shot in Niagara Falls. During filming Chilvers met a Niagara Parks Police officer named Colleen, who he eventually married. The couple have lived in Niagara ever since.

Chilvers — who was the special guest at the Niagara



PHOTO SPECIAL FROM COLIN CHILVERS.

Actor Christopher Reeves on the set of *Superman II* in Niagara Falls with special effects supervisor Colin Chilvers.

Integrated Film Festival's Oscar party in St. Catharines Sunday night — also worked on *Superman III*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *X-Men* and *K-11: The Widow Maker*.

He also directed the Michael Jackson *Smooth Criminal* music video as part of the movie *Moonwalker*.

Winning the Oscar opened career doors for him, Chilvers said, although sometimes he didn't recognize opportunity when it came knocking.

"My agent once came to me and asked if I would be interested in working on this weird movie about the Nazis finding the Ark of the Covenant," Chilvers said. "I passed on it and, of course, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* ended up winning an Academy Award."

Chilvers, who at the age of 70 continues to make independent films, said he regards *Smooth Criminal* as his best work because it combined his special effects savvy with being a director and working closely with Jackson.

But his eyes get misty when he talks about filming

the famous Niagara Falls scene in *Superman II*.

Most people who put on the Superman costume end up looking ridiculous. ("You're wearing red underpants over blue tights," Chilvers said.) But Reeve didn't look silly.

He looked like Superman.

"In the suit, he really believed he was Superman," he said. "Our first scene in Niagara Falls was the part where Superman flies into the air to rescue the kid, and there were 300 or 400 people watching behind the barricades."

Chilvers said Reeves was put into a very uncomfortable rig that would pull him into the air for the scene.

"The moment the scene started, and Chris took off, he wasn't an actor in tights and a rigging. He was Superman," Chilvers said. "Every one watching started cheering the moment he took off and the hairs on the back of my neck stood up. It was amazing. He could really fly."

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GRANT LAFLECHE/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Colin Chilvers, special effects legend and film director, with his 1979 Special Achievement Oscar he won for his work on *Superman the Movie*.

IKEA opens new-format store at Fairview Mall

DON FRASER
POSTMEDIA NETWORK

They were among the first to enter IKEA's new store at Fairview Mall.

Last Thursday, friends Marie Ricard and Jan Davis strolled with purpose into the "pick-up and order point" — a complimentary Danish and coffee in hand.

Around them, the store's 30 employees offered them a cheer and rhythmic "clap, clap."

"Yaa-y!" said the two, responding to the welcome from gold shirt and denim-wearing workers.

"We love IKEA, the products they offer," said Ricard, echoing her friend's sentiments. "We're addicted."

Both said the new location, where the Future Shop used to be, is a welcome commercial addition to the community.

City economic development manager Brian York hailed the new store as a "retail revival; this is the evolution of retail and we're extremely proud IKEA is testing it in our market."

The new "pick-up" format is part of a global pilot for markets where there are currently no stores.

At the St. Catharines location, about 100 large-



DON FRASER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Stefan Sjöstrand, president of IKEA Canada, is shown at the opening of a new "pick-up and order point" site at Fairview Mall in St. Catharines last Thursday.

scale items such as beds and tables are on display — other takeaway items can be purchased there, such as throw-pillows, plates and

Scandinavian-style home decor.

Customers who have shopped online or at another IKEA store will also

be able to pick up their products locally. The St. Catharines site features a scaled-down showroom and tablets to help shop-

pers buy online.

It is expected to mean cheaper delivery time and costs for customers, with orders to be delivered to

the pick-up store for \$20. Once delivered, a notification e-mail is sent.

Continued Page 14



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DON FRASER/POSTMEDIA
NETWORK

The ribbon-cutting at the new IKEA pick-up location shows, from right, regional Coun. Tim Rigby, St. Catharines Mayor Walter Sendzik and IKEA Canada president Stefan Sjostrand.



Ikea has 12 stores across Canada and three other pick-up and order points

Continued From Page 13

The location also features a "home-furnishing inspiration" area, with stations to help customers plan what they buy for their home. A large section of the 25,133-square-metre store is used as storage for shipped items.

IKEA currently has 12 stores across Canada as well as three other pick-up and order points, in Quebec City, London and Whitby.

IKEA Canada president Stefan Sjostrand said the company is using the format to be more accessible to shoppers, with the Ca-

nadian pilot to include six locations.

"This is huge for us," said St. Catharines Mayor Walter Sendzik, who attended the store's Thursday ribbon cutting. "It's a global brand that has chosen to be in St. Catharines, with an innovative new retail product that is ahead of the curve."

"And I think based on 'location, location, location,' it's going to be very successful," Sendzik said. "We're proud they chose St. Catharines as a place to invest."

"They don't make these investments lightly."

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News Briefs

Social housing task force formed

A task force has been established by Niagara Region to review options for social housing development.

Councillors were appointed to the newly-formed social housing development alternative service delivery review task force during last Thursday's meeting. The appointments were publicly announced following an open ballot vote.

It was later determined, however, that an error had been made when the ballots were tallied, regional clerk Ralph Walton said Monday. A report outlining the issue will be brought forward to the next council meeting, he said, adding staff will also investigate alternative approaches to voting by paper ballot.

After the ballots were properly tallied, it was determined the task force will include Niagara Regional Housing board members Thorold Coun. Henry D'Angela and Niagara Falls Coun. Selina Volpatti, as well as Fort Erie Coun. Sandy Annunziata, Lincoln Mayor Sandra Easton and Grimsby Coun. Tony Quirk.

Speed limit change on hold

The brakes have been put on a speed limit change to Thorold Stone Road.

Niagara Region's public works committee had recently approved an increase on the busy roadway to 70 km/h from 60 km/h from 150 metres west of Garner Road to 160 metres west of Kalar Road.

When the issue came forward for final approval from council, however, it was decided further review was necessary. Niagara Falls Coun. Selina Volpatti, who initiated the review in January, asked that the issue be referred back to public works staff after a letter was received by a concerned resident opposing the change.

More input needs to be collected from residents in the impacted area before a decision is made, she said. An updated report is expected by the end of March.

A speed increase that was also recommended for Lyons Creek Road was approved without discussion. It will see the posted 80-km/h limit on Lyons Creek extended from Montrose Road to 150 metres west of Stanley Avenue. From there, the limit will increase

to 70 km/h from 60 km/h until reaching the existing 50-km/h zone to the east.

Vehicle tax turned down

Niagara Region will not support introduction of a vehicle registration tax.

The minister of municipal affairs and housing is gathering input about potential implementation of the tax. Council confirmed its stance during last Thursday's meeting and will ask the region's 12 municipalities to do the same.

A motion to oppose the tax was passed forward by Port Colborne Coun. David Barrick, who took issue with the proposal.

"A municipal car tax is not a silver bullet to make municipalities financially sustainable," he said. Letters asking the Region to oppose the tax were submitted by the Trillium Automobile Dealers Association and a handful of local dealerships.

Barrick said he understands the need to support Niagara's auto sector and to "make life more affordable for Niagara families by not taxing the family car."

The Region's position will be communicated to the minister and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.



Bob Gale

Background check backlog could create problems for students, summer workers

BILL SAWCHUK
POSTMEDIA NETWORK

A backlog in record checks has members of the Niagara Regional Police Services board on edge.

The bottleneck for the most thorough record check, a police vulnerable sector check, is at seven weeks. The wait time last June was four weeks.

Employers, sports organizations and civic groups often require their staff or volunteers to obtain record checks from the police before they start working.

The number of requests often surge in the spring as summer employment ramps up and university students finish school or return to the

area, Bob Gale, chair of the police services board, said at last Thursday's board meeting.

Police Chief Jeff McGuire told the board the service has staff working weekends to try and clear some of the backlog. It has also authorized additional resources.

"Some people think they can come in on a Wednesday and pick it up on a Friday," McGuire said. "They don't realize how long it will take if they need it to graduate or start a job."

Gale warned the public not to procrastinate.

"I fear what is going to happen in April."

The police performed 18,614 vulnerable sector checks overall in 2015. That's up from 16,118 in 2014,

though the staffing level has remained the same.

The police undertook 7,018 criminal record checks in 2015. Those checks are more basic and can be processed much more quickly.

The number is up from 5,807 in 2014. In 2008, the police handled 1,429 criminal record checks.

The board heard there are many factors at play in creating the backlog, and not all are controlled by the NRP. Other services often have to be contacted to complete the checks, and the timelines are affected by staffing levels with each service.

The timeline is extended further when fingerprints are required by the RCMP to complete a check. bsawchuk@postmedia.com

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Celebrate First Nations culture during Mid-Winter Pow Wow

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre is opening its doors for a cultural celebration.

The 21st annual Mid-Winter Pow Wow, on Saturday, March 5, will feature drumming, dancing, First Nations crafts, an auction, a 50/50 draw and food. The Grand Entry begins at noon.

Sabrina Shawana, helping to organize the event, said anywhere from 300 to 500 people attend annual event. She encourages anyone who has never attended before to visit the Friendship Centre on the day of the pow wow.

"We're always seeking members of the Greater Fort Erie community to join in our events. Our mission statement has always been to extend a hand of friendship to the community," she said. Shawana looks forward to the pow wow every year because her family has been involved with it "for a number of years."

"My son came to this event for the first time in my belly.

I remember being eight months pregnant and I could feel his little feet bouncing around inside my stomach (to the sound of the drums)."

Shawana's son, Joe, has become heavily involved with the pow wow.

"My son has been the head youth dancer and this year, he stepped into the role of pow wow committee member and it's been great to see many of our programs that are being run by youth." Admission to the Mid-Winter Pow Wow is free and everyone is welcome.

For more information call the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre at 905-871-8931.

WHO: The Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre.

WHAT: The 21st Mid-Winter Pow Wow

WHEN: Saturday, March 5. The event begins at noon with the Grand Entry.

WHERE: 796 Buffalo Rd., Fort Erie.

WHY: To celebrate Aboriginal peoples' traditions.



FILE PHOTO/FORT ERIE TIMES

The community is invited to attend the 21st annual Mid-Winter Pow Wow at the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre on March 5. A dancer from last year's event is shown in this file photo.

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Briefs

Town warns residents of water scam

According to the Town of Fort Erie's manager of water and wastewater service, Grant Boutin, the Town has received "frequent reports" from customers about door-to-door salesmen who use high-pressure sales tactics, misrepresentations and false or deceptive statements.

These individuals, who at times have claimed to be representatives of the Town, claim the drinking water supply is unsafe to drink. Boutin told councillors during last week's committee meeting that he has used misleading home water tests, including chlorine tests and jar tests, to show residents their water is unsafe.

Boutin made the presentation to council in order to raise awareness.

The Town has made efforts to educate the community through press releases, social media and word of mouth.

He said a senior resident who was a victim of a door-to-door water scam "advised she had read (a press release from the Town), although it was too late" and had water filtration equipment installed in her home.

Boutin said the resident didn't provide cash, cheque or credit card information. Instead, she provided her Enbridge Gas account number, which can be used for payment, Boutin said.

Town staff assisted the resident by taking a number of steps that included filing a complaint with Consumer Protection Ontario, and the equipment was removed.

Regional Councillor Sandy Annunziata made a motion at regional council last week, asking staff to have daily updated information about the drinking water supply

for the 12 municipalities in Niagara placed on the Region's web site.

Residents are encouraged to obtain personal descriptions of these individuals, along with their business card information, vehicle make, model and license plate numbers and forward this information to the police.

Integrity Commissioner resigns

Councillors received a memorandum last week, which reported the resignation of the Town's integrity commissioner, Suzanne Craig.

According to the memorandum, there were no complaints received from March 2015 to February 2016 since the integrity commissioner's last annual report.



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Niagara celebrates its best entrepreneurs

DON FRASER
Postmedia network

The region's top achievers in entrepreneurship were celebrated at a prestigious awards ceremony on Friday.

Eighteen recipients got top honours from among more than 70 nominees at the Niagara Entrepreneur of the Year Awards held in Niagara Falls.

Since the program's inception in 1994, 978 nominees

have been celebrated and 304 local entrepreneurs have been recipients of awards in a range of categories.

In this year's best-of-awards category — held at the Marriott Gateway on the Falls — Jan. R. Cook received a lifetime achievement award.

Cook is best known as CEO of Credit Bureau Services Canada, a company he bought in 1985 from his father's estate.

He is also the campaign co-

chair who led a fundraising drive of more than \$40 million towards Niagara Health System's *It's Our Time* campaign.

Businesswoman Anne Kemp was bestowed the Community Contribution Award for her devotion to volunteerism.

Kemp has been involved in several boards and committees over her 35 years of service, largely in a fundraising role, including Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation, Ni-

agara Community Foundation, and Family and Children's Services Niagara.

In addition to the bestowed awards, 14 new awards were launched out in the following categories:

Young entrepreneur: Nicole Pajak of Small Batch Co., Niagara Falls;

Emerging entrepreneur: Mark Melloni of Urge to Purge Inc., Welland;

Established entrepreneur: Nick Morganelli of Stelab Ni-

agara Inc., Niagara Falls;

Family entrepreneur: Florence, Michael and Tim Allieri, and Amanda Burke of Allieri Floor Experts, Welland;

Innovative entrepreneur: Roman Napieraj of Napier Enterprises, St. Catharines;

International entrepreneur: Antonio and Jim Mancuso of Mancuso Chemicals, Niagara Falls;

Technological entrepreneur: Al van den Ende and Michael

Galenkamp of ISPECS Inc. and ACROBATIC Controls Inc., Jordan;

Tourism and hospitality entrepreneur: Mike Langley and Kat Steeves of Tide and Vine Oyster Co., Niagara Falls;

Andy Veenstra of Andy Veenstra Farms Ltd., Port Colborne;

Environmental entrepreneur: Wayne Elliott of Wet Materials Co. Inc., Port Colborne and St. Catharines.

donfraser@postmedia.com

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Longtime Ridgeway resident celebrates 100th birthday

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

Lois Daly Wright recently celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by family and friends at the Buffalo Yacht Club.

Wright, born on Feb. 15, 1916 in Buffalo, N.Y., lived in Ridgeway for more than 70 years and "is fondly known throughout the town," her son, Jonathan Wright, said.

Lois Daly Wright was happily married to William S. Wright, who was an employee at Rich's Products and a long-time member of Cherry Hill Golf Club.

Together, they have four chil-

dren, Darragh, Mark, Timothy and Jonathan, as well as 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Wright currently resides at Greenfield Manor in Lancaster, N.Y. and "still reads a lot," Jonathan Wright said.

"She's always been a great reader. She has been known to read 300 books a year. She also has many hobbies and friends around town."

Before she retired, Wright worked at home as a homemaker. She also ran a book store for many years.

sarferguson@postmedia.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Lois Daly Wright, a Fort Erie native, recently celebrated her 100th birthday at the Buffalo Yacht Club. She is photographed here with her grandson, Colin Wright, a senior at Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School, and her son, Jonathan Wright.

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When there is nothing left to go home to

After a long day, a vacation, or just a night out, many of us have to be able to return 'home.'

Home means safety, comfort, familiarity, family, a safe shelter, and many other things; home is something many of us as Canadians take for granted. For many in first world nations not affected by the daily conflicts of civil war, prolonged depression and economic distress, or governments who are unstable or corrupt, the concept of having an unsafe home is not something that is thought of too often. Unfortunately, for literally millions of people around the world, the concept of 'home' or 'going home' does not exist. As images of masses of humanity moving across international borders via land and sea continue to float across our television or computer screens, there are people

who ask why those who are on the move simply cannot just return to their homes. The answer should seem simple enough but in actuality, is quite complicated. Internationally displaced persons and those who are or are seeking to be refugees often times have nothing to return home to: villages, homes, cities, all gutted by the bombs and bullets of war, severe famine and economic crisis, social instability, and inept governments are just a few of the reasons why those seeking refuge outside of their home nations are unable to return.

Yes, this is something that has been briefly touched on before in our articles, however it seems important to reemphasize that some of the people who are living amongst us in Fort Erie have not only had to give up everything to find safety in Canada

but also would have nothing to go back to had they not found that safety here. The recent drone footage of Homs, Syria, found at <http://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2016/feb/04/drone-footage-homs-syria-utter-devastation-video>, shows the utter destruction and devastation that Syrian people are leaving. The same can be said of certain parts of Iraq, Afghanistan, Sudan, and many other nations of the world who have been faced with civil war or continued terrorist and rebel takeover. Home no longer exists; therefore leaving is the only answer and hope for survival. There is no going back, no matter how much one wants to return. Returning would not only be life threatening because of the people who may still be there but also because access to basic simple needs such as proper food,

water, and shelter is almost impossible. There are no jobs, no social networks, no government resources, no family supporters, and no security. Countries facing or experiencing mass exodus are essentially becoming empty shells, hollowed by war, famine, and indifference.

The task of restoring countries that have been abandoned by their citizens is daunting and, in reality, may never be a possibility without surrounding nations banding together to help. Restoration means political, social, economic, and thought process changes that can only come from being allowed a chance at a restart, being given a hand up and not a hand out, or through people world wide spreading out the wealth and knowledge that exists rather than keeping it all concentrated in nations that have much

more than they will ever need. There are government leaders, terrorist or rebel groups, or other powerful individuals or organizations who do not wish to see change but it is within our power to be the one person or group who empowers change through seeing what is wrong and working to make it right. This is not naive, it is not weak, it is not simple minded; rather, it is a challenge to stand in the face of crisis and say enough, we will no longer tolerate the disparity within our own nation or around the world. Yes, it is taxing, burdensome, and wearying but it must be done so that future generations understand and would perhaps work to prevent such disparity from continuing to grow.

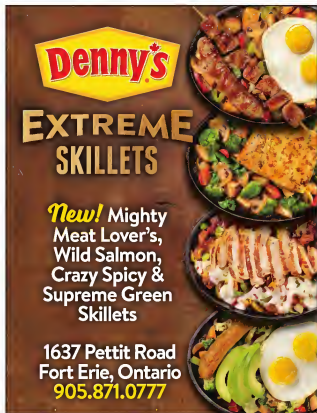
Canada, as a signatory to many United Nations treaties and as a nation who has a history of helping others,

offers the chance for those coming to our borders to begin again, to experience a freedom that they may have thought lost forever. When I worked at Matthew House Refugee Ministry of Fort Erie, I remember speaking to a number of people who had a hard time believing that they would ever find peace again or be able to experience the professional success that they knew in their countries. To this day, I love hearing stories of success, be it educational, professional, personal, or family. This is what we need to do, be willing to offer our help, engage in conversation, ask questions, and encourage those who have the determination to work hard so that they will become good citizens of Canada and give hope for their homelands.

Rosemary Legge for the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre.

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Turtle smuggler fined \$3,500

ALISON LANGLEY
Postmedia Network

A Windsor resident caught at a Niagara border crossing with more than three dozen turtles strapped to his legs has been fined \$3,500 and banned from owning turtles and tortoises for 10 years.

Dong Yan was convicted in the provincial offences court last month to illegally importing reptiles into Canada.

In addition to being placed on probation for 24 months, Yan was fined \$3,500, prohibited from owning or possessing turtles and tortoises for 10 years and ordered to perform 50 hours of community service.

He must also notify Environment and Climate Change Canada seven days prior to any international travel.

He was also ordered to write a letter or article, suitable for publication, outlining his experience of being prosecuted for the offences and submit it to the ECOC.

Court was told Yan was arrested at the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge on June 11, 2014 after Canada Border Services Agency officers found 38 turtles strapped to his legs.

His collection included ringed map turtles, diamondback terrapins, three-toed box turtles, spotted turtles and red-eared sliders.

The turtles were in plastic bags and taped to Yan's legs under his pants.

The turtles were turned over to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

There are over 350 species of turtles and tor-

toises in the wild. Of this number, trade in 140 species of turtles and 44 species of tortoise are regulated by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

According to CITES, live specimens of turtles and tortoises are often sought after for use in the pet and food trade.

A University of Waterloo student was convicted in a U.S. court last December of trying to smuggle dozens of turtles across the Ambassador Bridge in Windsor.

In that case, the 27-year-old had 51 snapping turtles taped to his body.

The ECOC is the lead agency responsible for CITES implementation in Canada.

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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CDS-16P-CRYS16 CRYSTAL RIDGE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

This Request for Proposal is an invitation to qualified, professional consultants to submit Proposals for the preparation of detailed design and construction/tender documents as required to implement Crystal Ridge Park Improvements. Improvements will be based on the approved Crystal Ridge Park Master Plan (2009), and include confirmation of the conceptual design, detailed design of all site components, the preparation of construction documentation, and the preparation of tender documentation in the context of stakeholder consultation. Provisional work may include contract administration for 2017 construction, subject to available capital funds.

Sealed proposals clearly marked as to contents will be received by Bart Ménage, Manager, Purchasing and Finance Services, Municipal Centre, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, until 2:00 p.m. local time on:

FRIDAY MARCH 18, 2016

This bid opportunity may be obtained at www.biddingo.com/forterie or alternatively, by contacting the Manager Purchasing & Finance Services at bménage@forterie.on.ca

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie reserves the right to reject any or all submission and the lowest or any proposal will not necessarily be accepted.

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March 17.....	1:00 - 2:30 pm.....	\$1.50/Person
March 18.....	8:00 - 10:00 pm.....	\$2.50/Person
March 20.....	1:00 - 2:30 pm.....	\$1.50/Person

ATTENTION ALL MOTORISTS

Residents are reminded that no overnight winter parking is permitted in the Town of Fort Erie between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. from November 1 through March 31 of the following year. The Town's By-law Enforcement Officers will be enforcing Traffic By-law No. 84-2014. The fine for this offence is \$40.00 and in addition, your vehicle may be towed at your expense.

Family fun



SUBMITTED PHOTO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

MPP Wayne Gates held a free community skate Saturday at the Fort Erie Leisureplex. Donations for the food bank at Community Outreach Program Erie were accepted.

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Canadians snap Meteors' winning streak

The Welland Junior Canadians snapped a nine-game winning streak for the Fort Erie Meteors.

Both coaches wanted their teams playing "play-off hockey," with the Meteors having the added incentive of dominating the team that sidelined them in the opening round last season.

Fort Erie did just that, though only in shots on goal, not shots into the goal.

While the Meteors out-shot the Canadians 47-22, including by a 16-4 margin in the final period, Welland rebounded from a 2-0 deficit and, thanks to Chris Janzen's stellar play between the pipes, held on for a 4-3 victory.

The Meteors finished the regular season fifth in the conference, only two points behind the team they will face in the first round, the Niagara Falls Canucks.

Fort Erie head coach Rob Hubbard said there's a lot to like about his team heading into the playoffs.

"For us, it's all about playing good hockey, and we've been playing good hockey for the last 5 ½ to six weeks," he said. "Our older guys stepped their game up."

Hubbard said the leadership of fifth-year veteran Anthony Passero had a lot to do with the Meteors' winning streak. "He wants to play playoff hockey every night," the coach said of the team's top scorer and one of the scoring leaders in the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League.

The win, combined with Friday night's 6-2 come-from-behind road victory over the Pelham Panthers, gave the Junior Canadians their longest winning streak since early January.

Welland head coach Keith Osborne called the victory a



The Meteors continued their winning streak Saturday when the junior B team won 4-3 over the St. Catharines Falcons.

JOSEPH BURD/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

"good confidence builder" heading into the playoffs.

"You always want to win heading into the playoffs," he said. "We can take the positives from this weekend and take them into the series against St. Catharines."

Daniel Singes, on the power play, and Mike Masotti staked Fort Erie to a 2-0 lead 6:27 into the first period, but the game was tied at 2 heading into the middle frame thanks to goals from Dorian Maye and Jake Shaw.

Adam Barron's power-play marker accounted for the only scoring in the second period.

Connor Schmalz tied the game at the 6:50 mark of

the third, but the Canadians regained the lead less than five minutes later when Cole Hamilton took a pass in front of the crease and rifled the puck over Fort Erie goaltender Riley Daniels' right shoulder.

Hamilton admitted trailing early had him thinking Sunday would not be Welland's night.

"At some points in the game we played like we used to

during the losing streak," the 20-year-old from Ottawa said.

He credited the comeback - and the victory - to the team bearing down on its scoring chances.

"It's good to get back into a winning mindset."

Hamilton, who is ineligible to return for a second season at the junior B level, said the playoffs against St. Catharines will be a battle.

"It always is when we play them," he said. "I think it's going to be a good series, and I think it's going to take more than four games."

Despite the loss, Fort Erie

won the season series versus Welland four wins to three, eight points to seven.

Niagara Falls beat Fort Erie 4-3 in head-to-head play, while the Junior Canadians went 0-4-2-1 against St. Catharines.

Fort Erie 4, St. Catharines 3

The St. Catharines Falcons dropped a 4-3 decision in favour of the Fort Erie Meteors Saturday night at the Fort Erie LeSueurplex.

Anthony Passero, Daniel Singes, Holden Garland and Ben Evans scored single goals for the Meteors. Mitchell Webb, Tyler Jackson and Cole Langan scored singles for St. Catharines.

Brayden Lachance recorded 25 saves for Fort Erie; Joel Horodziejczyk saved 16 of 20 shots on St. Catharines' net.

Fort Erie incurred four minutes of penalty time. St. Catharines incurred 24 minutes on nine infractions.

Niagara Falls will host Fort Erie in playoff action Friday at 7:30 p.m. For game results visit www.forterietimes.ca.

— With files from Bernd Franke

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Bouquet for a helpful neighbour
A huge bouquet for my neighbor Dave on Bertie Street who not only plowed our driveway after the big snow but he did all the neighbours on entire street! Thank you so much! There truly are good people in this town!

Bouquet for a good samaritan
Me and my husband visit the Jarvis street market that runs every Tuesday in the old fire hall. My husband wasn't feeling good so he sat down in a chair for a minute. This lady, Carolina, who has a craft table at the market asked if my husband was okay. I told her that my husband was having a little tightness in his chest and wasn't feeling well. She is a former nurse and she asked me questions. She told me he is probably having a heart attack get him to the hospital. I drove him to Fort Erie hospital and they told me he was having a massive heart attack as soon as we

stepped into the doors. They transferred him to Hamilton. If he would of waited another day my husband would have died. Thank you Carolina. You saved my husband's life and gave my kids back their father. He is doing well. He will be in the hospital for another four weeks. Thank you again, from Mr. and Mrs. Miller

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A bouquet for my neighbour. He shovelled my driveway for me so I could get my car out of the snow. I am a senior and it's difficult to clear my driveway myself. I appreciate my neighbour's help so thank you!

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SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Playing on the Peace Bridge Public School senior girls basketball team are Yas Sistar, Amanda Li, Megan Dale, Julianne Bowles, Rylan Morin, Jaczy Bacon-Svensson, Guershimine Exe, Candice Goulding, Theodora Mollicone, Madison Meli and Rachel Dobbie. With them is coach Dave Mousseau.

Polar Bears celebrate end of successful season

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

The Peace Bridge Public School Polar Bears took third place at the District School Board of Niagara B Division Intermediate Girls Basketball Championship but to them, it feels like they won first place. "These girls played as hard as they could every single game and they learned something at every game they played. They really are a spe-

cial team," said coach Dave Mousseau.

The Polar Bears finished their season with a record of nine wins and two losses and were defeated by a team from St. Catharines during the semifinals in the DSB's tournament held last Monday.

Prior to this season, the team "hadn't won a single game in two years."

The team had its humble beginning three years ago as a unit when Peace Bridge Public

School opened consolidating students from former Rose Seaton and Fort Erie Public Schools. The Polar Bears didn't have a gym yet so they were bussed to Rose Seaton to practice.

The Polar Bears had no uniforms so the team taped their numbers on their shirts.

"When the kids first came together they didn't know each other and now they have become a cohesive team," Mousseau said.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Students from Peacock School of Dance visited the National Ballet School in Toronto on Feb. 21. The dancers improved their skills during an all-day workshop that included pointe, flamenco, modern and character classes. From left, is Charley May Somerville, Ava Sneek, Makenna Mathieson, Maci Wood, Jaida Baughn, Melanie Shields, Brianna Baughn, Lily McPhee, Emily Lockwood, Emmah Gmose, Sinead Thomas, Abigail Wright, Hannah Stehling, Gianna Annunziata, Mackenzie Pardoe and Kayla Brown

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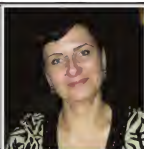
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PATRICK, Phyllis Richards - Passed away peacefully at home, holding her husband's hand, on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at the age of 95. Beloved wife of Keith Patrick for 69 years. Loving mother of Charmian (Hong), Janet (Peter) and Philip (Cornelia). Proud grandmother of 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by her parents Walter and Blanche Taylor and her brother Philip Richardson Taylor. Private Family Funeral Arrangements entrusted to the **HENRY WALSER FUNERAL HOME**, 519-749-6467. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Alzheimer Society or Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington/Hamilton would be appreciated by the family (cards available at the funeral home). Visit www.henrywalsers.com for Phyllis' memorials.

In Memoriams

In Memoriams



Danijela Trgovcevic

In loving memory of a devoted wife and mother, who passed away March 4th, 2015.

One year has passed since that sad day. When one we loved was called away. God took her home. It was His will, But in our hearts she liveth still.

Forever in our hearts and sadly missed by husband, daughter and son.



DANIJELA TRGOVCEVIC

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For you were someone special always such a joy to know and there was so much pain when it was time to let you go.

That's why this special message is sent to Heaven above for the angels to take care of you and give you all my love.

Brother Tony with family



Pereira, Deborah Ann (McPhee)
 1966 - 2006

*A gentle heart stopped beating
 Two helpful hands stood still
 A special smile, a special face
 My heart still aches with sadness
 And the secret tears still flow
 To hear your voice and see you smile
 To sit with you and chat a while*

You were my daughter
 and how I miss you still
 Love you always, Mom



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Lovingly remembered by Mom, Dad, Roger, and daughter, Lena.

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— Ally Condie,



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 as to be beyond our sight, but they
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MARCH 5th, 2016

21st Annual Mid-Winter Pow Wow

Rekindling Our Traditions

Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre



- ▶ Host Drum: Little Creek
Co-Hosat Drum: Chippewa Travellers
- ▶ Grand Entry at Noon
- ▶ Smoke Dance Special
- ▶ Pow Wow Foods
- ▶ Auction Table
- ▶ First Nations Crafts
- ▶ 50/50 Draw

Donations of non-perishable food item or cash accepted at the door.

Location: 796 Buffalo Road - Fort Erie, ON
Vendor Information/Registration,
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